



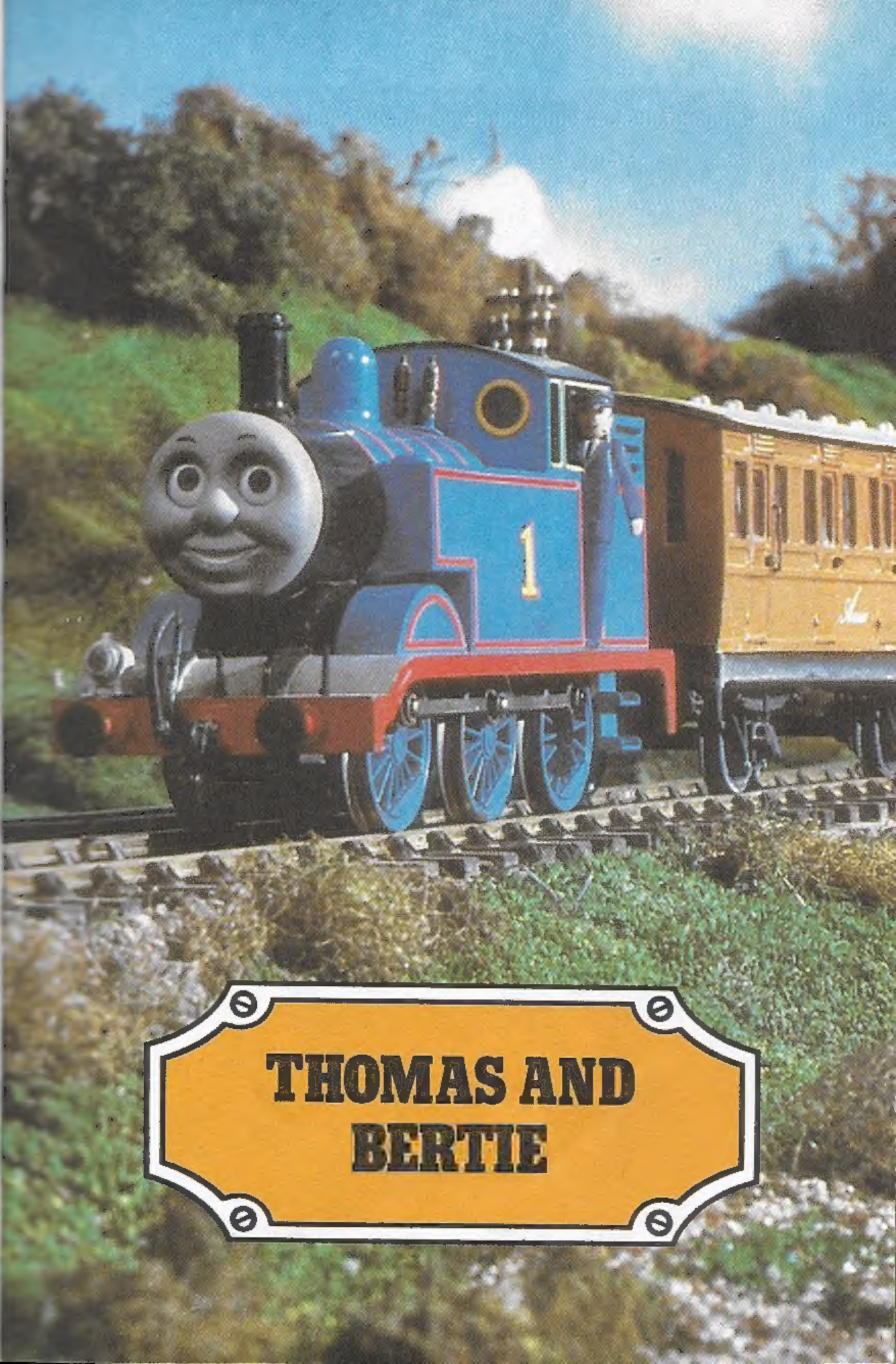
THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

THOMAS & BERTIE
THOMAS
DOWN THE MINE



Based on *The Railway Series* by The Rev W Awdry

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**THOMAS AND
BERTIE**

Thomas and Bertie

One day Thomas was waiting at the junction when a bus came into the yard.

"Hullo!" said Thomas. "Who are you?"

"I'm Bertie," said the bus. "Who are you?"

"I'm Thomas. I run this branch line."





Bertie laughed. "Ah - I remember now!" he said. "You were stuck in the snow. I had to take your passengers, then Terence the tractor had to pull you out! I've come to help you with your passengers today."



"Help me?" said Thomas, crossly.
"I can go faster than you," he said, going bluer than ever and letting off steam.

"You can't," said Bertie.

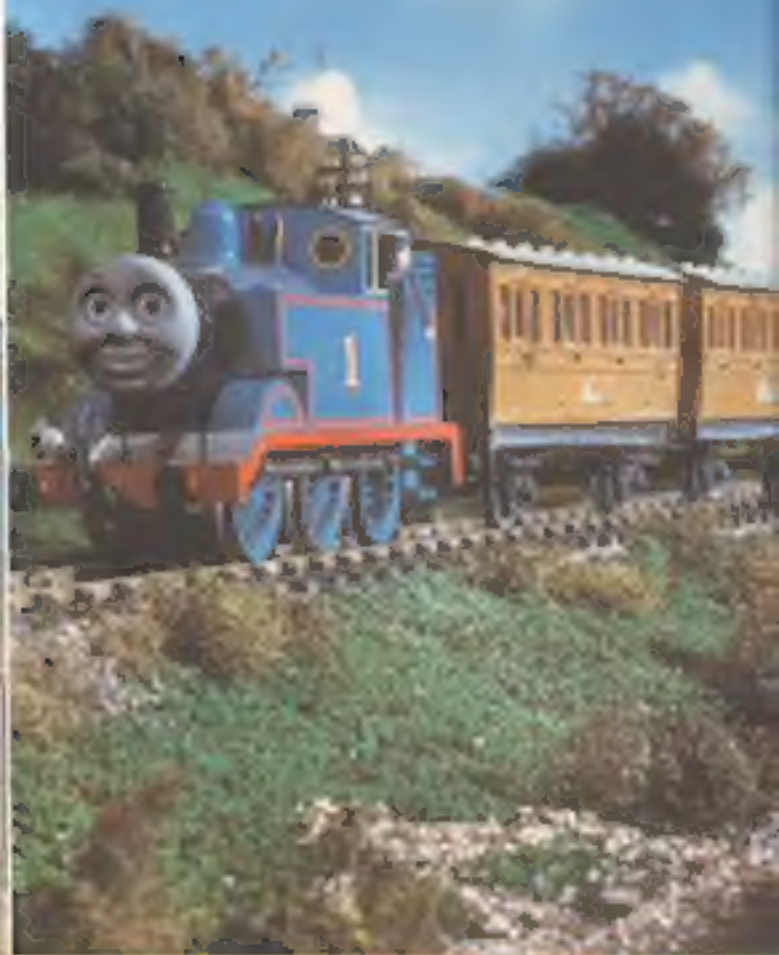
"I can," huffed Thomas.



"I'll race you!" said Bertie.

Their drivers agreed to the race. The Station Master shouted, "Are you ready? GO!" - and they were off!

It always took Thomas a little while to
build up speed so Bertie quickly drew in
front.



Thomas was running well but he did not hurry. "Why don't you go fast? Why don't you go fast?" called Annie and Clarabel, who were running along behind.



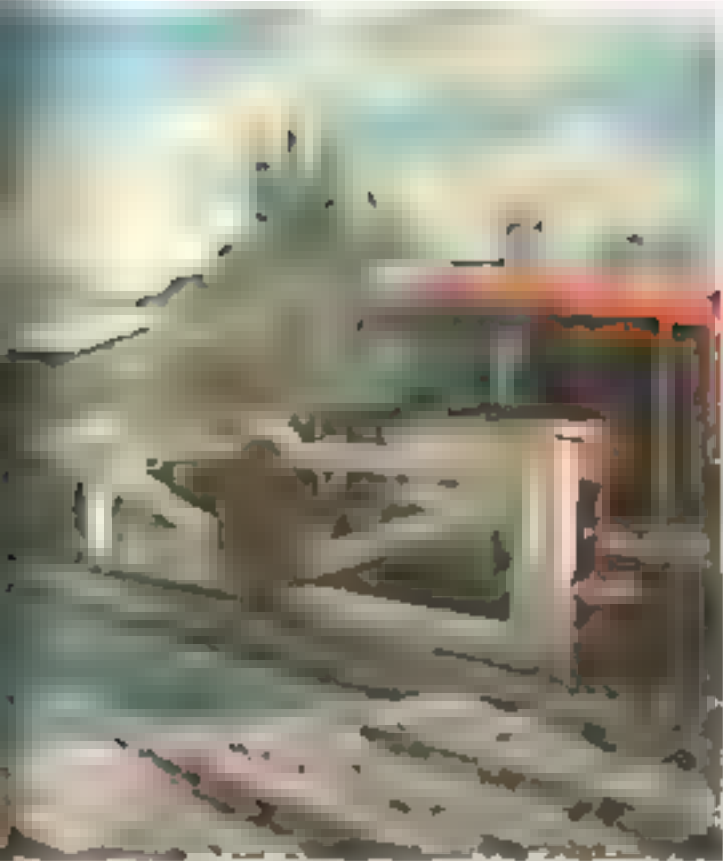
"Wait and see. Wait and see," hissed Thomas.

"He's a long way ahead, a long way ahead," they cried, anxiously.



But Thomas didn't mind; he had remembered the level crossing.

There was Bertie fuming at the crossing gates while they sailed gaily through.

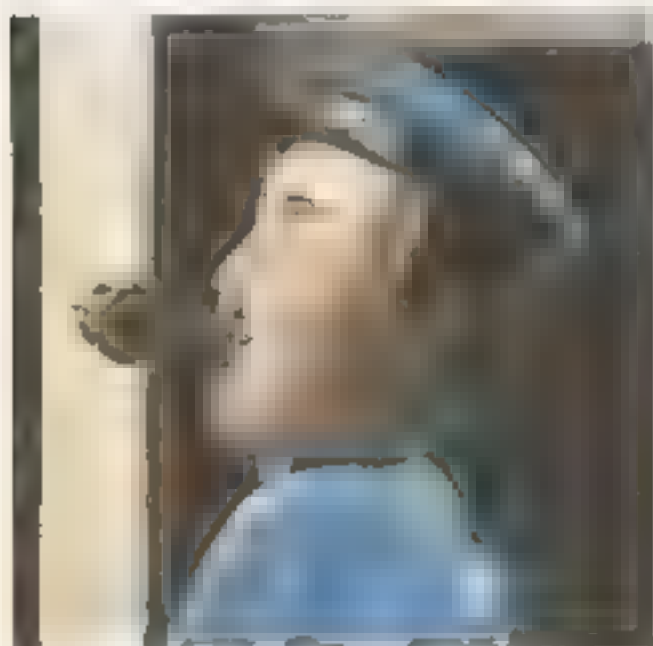


Goodbye Bertie called Thomas

After that the road left the railway and
went through a village. They couldn't see
Bertie any more.

Before long they had to stop at a station to let off passengers. Peep p p peep. Quickly please, called Thomas.

Everybody got out quickly. The guard blew his whistle and off they went again.



"Come along. Come along!" sang Thomas.

"We're coming along! We're coming along!" said Annie and Clarabel.

Thomas looked straight ahead and
saw in horror. There was Bertie
crossing the bridge over the railway
going triumphantly on his horn!

Oh dear, me Oh dear, me
cried Thomas





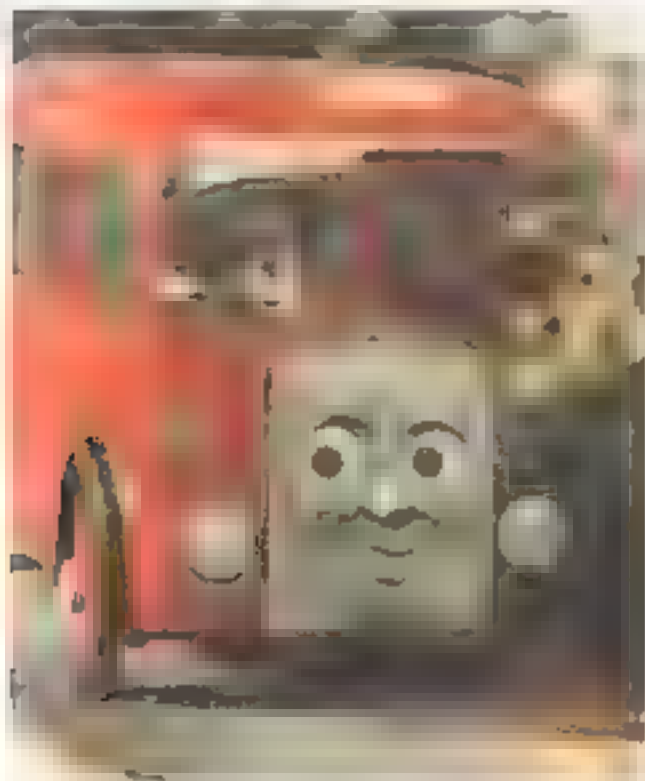
Steady, Thomas said Thomas's
driver. We'll beat Bertie yet.

Annie and Clarabel joined in. We'll
beat Bertie yet. We'll beat Bertie yet
they sang.

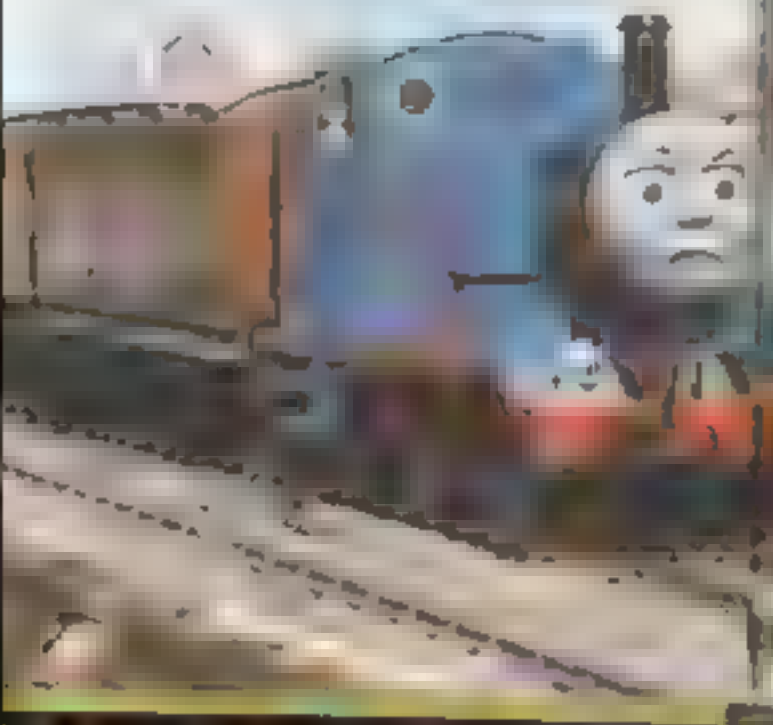
"We'll do it. We'll do it!" puffed
Thomas bravely. "Oh bother, there's a
station."

As Thomas stopped at the station he
saw Bertie looking out.

Goodbye Thomas. You must be
late, called Bertie as he raced by.
Sorry, I can't stop, we buses have to
work you know. Goodbye.



Of fear! thought Thomas "We've
gone!" But he felt better after a drink.
Then the signal dropped to show that the
line was clear and they were off again.



As they rumbled over the city, the
2x Bertie waiting at the station
when the lights turned green. Bertie
started with a roar and a cloud of
Thomas again.





Road and railway ran up the valley side by side. By now Thomas had reached his full speed. Bertie tried hard but Thomas was too fast.

On and on they raced. Excited passengers cheered and shouted across the valley as Thomas whistled triumphantly and plunged into the tunnel, leaving Bertie toiling far behind.



We've done it! We've done it!
chanted Annie and Carabe happily as
they whooshed into the last station.

Everybody was there to give Thomas
three cheers for winning the race. They
all gave Bertie a big welcome too.

"Well done Thomas!" said Bertie.
That was for. But to beat you over that
hill you should have had to grow wings and
be an aeroplane.



Now Thomas and Bertie keep each
other very busy. Bertie finds people in
the villages who want to go by train and
takes them to Thomas, while Thomas
takes people to the station for Bertie to
take home.



Bertie and Thomas often talk about their race. But Bertie's passengers don't like being bounced like peas in a frying pan.



The Fat Controller has warned Thomas not to race at dangerous speeds. So although Thomas and Bertie would like to have another race, I don't think they ever will. Do you?

THOMAS DOWN THE MINE



Thomas down the mine

One day Thomas was at the junction when Gordon shuffled in with some trucks

Poot!" said Thomas "What a funny smell! Can you smell a smell?"

"I can't smell a smell" said Annie



"It's a funny, musty sort of smell," said Gordon.

No one noticed that you did," said Gordon. "It must be yours!" Not long ago Gordon had fallen into a dirt. He knew that Thomas was teasing him about it.



Annie and Corabel do you know
what I think it is? said Thomas. It's
the water! Gordon didn't have the
answer as Thomas was soon in bed.
Annie and Corabel and then he passed
quickly away.



...and could not

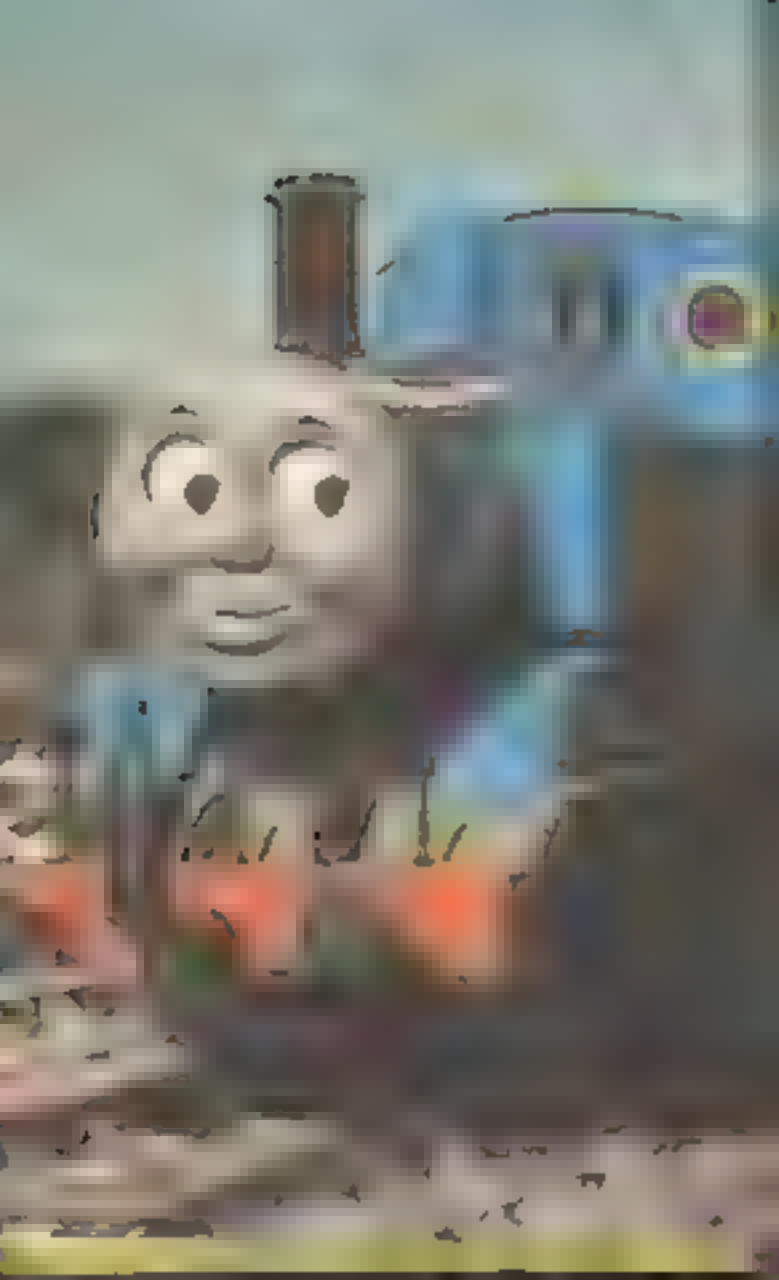
... His dress, rude

... ashamed, feeble and

he ... rude ...

each other





They had great respect for Gordon the big engine. You mustn't be rude and make us ashamed. They kept teasing Thomas. But Thomas didn't care a bit.

'That was funny, that was funny,' he chuckled, teasing very pleased with himself.

Thomas left the coaches at the station and went off to a mine for some trucks.



Long ago, miners digging for lead had made tunnels under the ground. The tunnel roofs were strong enough to hold trucks, but they could not take the weight of the heavy engines.

A large notice said 'DANGER
ENGINES MUST NOT PASS THIS POINT'

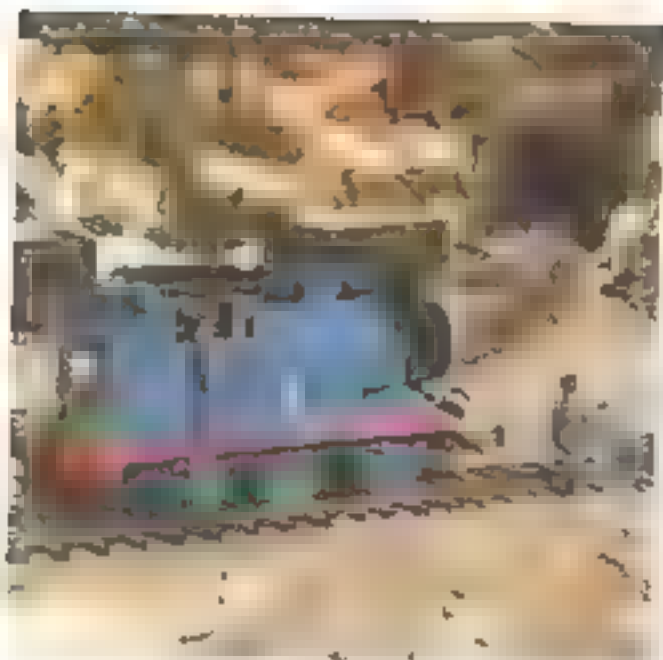
Thomas had been warned but he
didn't care. He had often tried to pass
the sign before but had never succeeded.
He knew the rules, he had to push



empty trucks into one siding and wait
for the others from another

This morning he laughed as he puffed
along. He had made a plan. "Get
board," he said to himself, "getting nearer
and nearer to the danger sign."





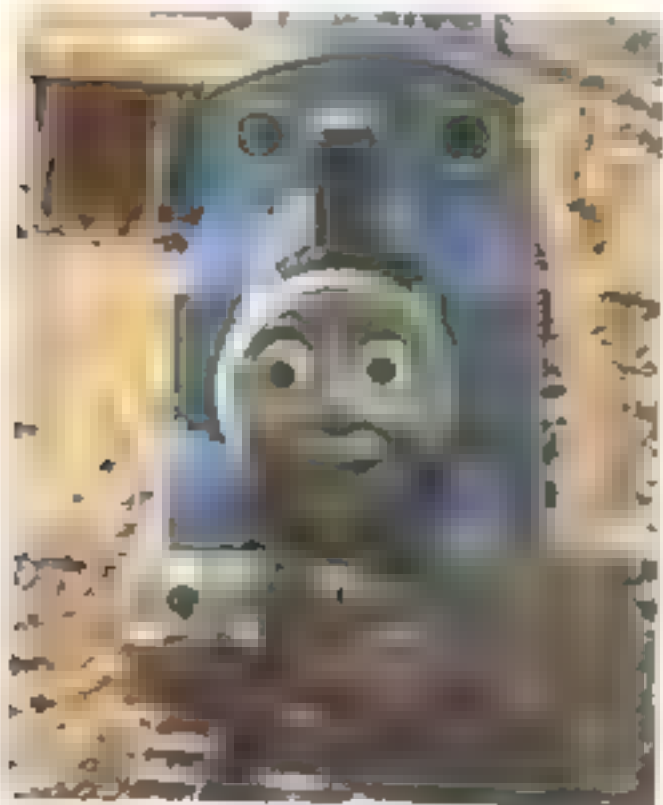
The driver stopped him and the
man went to turn the points. Now for
the plan, said Thomas and he bumped
the tracks twice, jerking the driver off
the footplate!

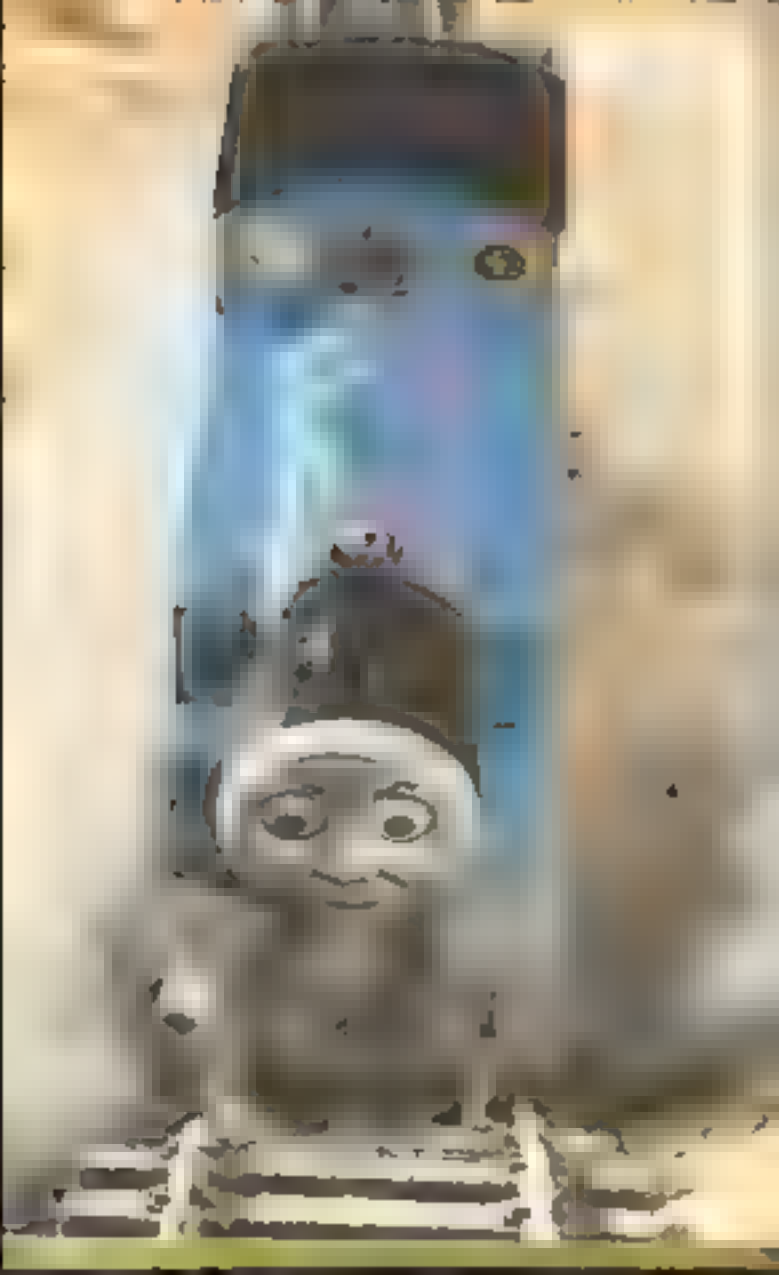
He ran, said Thomas as he followed
the tracks into a siding.

Come back, called his driver. But it
was too late.

'Stupid old board!' said Thomas as
he ran past it. 'There's no danger.
There's no danger!'

'Look out!' cried the driver. The
fireman clambered into the cab and tried
Thomas's brakes.





There was a rumbling noise and the rails quivered. The fireman jumped clear. Then the rails sagged and broke.

"Fire and smoke!" said Thomas. "I'm sunk!" — and he was! Thomas could just see out of the hole but he couldn't move. "Oh dear!" he said. "I am a silly engine."



And a very naughty one too," said the Fat Controller, who had just arrived. "I saw you."

Please get me out. I won't be naughty again, said Thomas.

I'm not sure, said the Fat Controller. We can't lift you out with a crane because the ground is not firm enough. Hmm, let me see. I wonder if Gordon could pull you out.



Yes, sir, said Thomas nervously. He did. I want to see Gordon just yet.





When Gordon heard about Thomas he
laughed very loudly. Down a mine was
he? Ho! He! He! What a joke! What a
joke! he chuckled, puffing quickly to the
rescue.

‘Poop! Poop!’ Little Thomas. Gordon
whistled. ‘We’ll have you out in a couple
of puffs! Poop! Poop! Poop!’

The men fastened strong cables
between Gordon and Thomas.



already ready? HEAVE called the
introier

they didn't pull Thomas out in two
was a lot harder than they had



all thought. Gordon worked hard but it took a long time to finally pull Thomas out of the hole.





"I'm sorry I was cheeky," said Thomas.

"That's all right, Thomas," said Gordon. "You made me laugh!" Thomas was very pleased that Gordon was not angry with him any more.

Thomas's fire had gone out so he needed a pull back to the station. "Can we go together?" asked Thomas.

"Of course we can," said Gordon. "I'll pull you back."

"Thank you very much," said Thomas. And buffer to buffer the two friends pulled home.





Series 848 Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends

Titles in this Series *(Two stories in each book)*

- 1 *Percy runs away/Thomas and the breakdown train*
- 2 *Thomas goes fishing/James and the troublesome trucks*
- 3 *Thomas and Terence/James and the tar wagons*
- 4 *Thomas and Bertie/Thomas down the mine*
- 5 *Toby and the stout gentleman/Thomas in trouble*
- 6 *Edward, Gordon and Henry/Gordon off the rails*

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